

March 6, 2015

[APPtestimony@cga.ct.gov](mailto:APPtestimony@cga.ct.gov),

Connecticut General Assembly,

My family and I appreciate and visit regularly several of our Connecticut State Parks, Harkness Memorial, Fort Trumbull, Hammonasset, and occasionally a few others. We frequently go for walks with our pets, the children play, and all visits so very much needed.

I see the parks full on summer days where families, and people come to relax, children play, many want to escape the city, or just enjoy the country setting and beaches. Our parks are special places that should always be available and staffed for residents.

The proposal by the CT General Assembly to cut funding 15 – 20 percent will surely mean less services available and possibly less days the parks may be open. The Connecticut state government and the General Assembly need to find other ways to balance their budgets, not by strangling our parks budgets, making them unable to function well for public use.

I beg the general assembly to do the right thing and vote **no** to cut budgets to our state parks so that families and citizens of this wonderful state of Connecticut can continue to enjoy all the pleasures, fun and beauty of our State Parks.

Sincerely,  
Edwina Presley  
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